

**Introduced by Senator Soto**

February 23, 2006

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An act to add and repeal Article 2 (commencing with Section 44441) of Chapter 3 of Part 25 of the Education Code, relating to English language education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1567, as introduced, Soto. English language education: teacher coaching program.

(1) Existing law establishes the English Language Acquisition Program designed for pupils enrolled in grades 4 to 8, inclusive, under which a school district conducts an academic assessment of English language learners, provides a program for English language development instruction, provides supplemental instructional support, and coordinates services and funding sources available to English language learners.

This bill would establish the English Language Learner Teacher Coaching Program until January 1, 2012, to provide English language learner coaches to assist groups of teachers, teaching paraprofessionals, and pupils in certain matters.

The bill would require the State Department of Education to select a county office of education for the purposes of administering the program. The bill would require that the selected county office of education have a proven record of experience in providing learning opportunities and services for English language learners.

The bill would require the selected county office of education to administer the program, subject to an appropriation in the Budget Act or other legislation. By requiring that the county administer the program, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The bill would require the selected office of education to identify activities that are mutually beneficial to the English Language Professional Development Institutes and the English language learner coaches.

The bill would also require the department to evaluate the success of the program and report its findings to the Legislature by January 1, 2010.

(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Article 2 (commencing with Section 44441) is  
2 added to Chapter 3 of Part 25 of the Education Code, to read:

3  
4 Article 2. English Language Learner Teacher Coaching  
5 Program  
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7 44441. The Legislature finds and declares that recent studies  
8 identify the quality of teachers as one of the major factors  
9 affecting pupil achievement. Recent studies also find that pupils  
10 who are from low socioeconomic backgrounds or who are  
11 English language learners are in classrooms with teachers who  
12 are new or not fully credentialed.

13 44442. (a) The English Language Learner Teacher Coaching  
14 Program is hereby established. The purpose of the English  
15 Language Learner Teacher Coaching Program is to provide  
16 “expert” or “master” teachers to serve as peer coaches to  
17 classroom teachers instructing pupils who are English language  
18 learners for the purpose of improving the quality of instruction.  
19 Ongoing, job-embedded support for improved instruction shall  
20 be provided by the program. In addition, the program shall

1 complement current professional development initiatives. The  
2 program shall assist new teachers, teachers who are not fully  
3 credentialed, teaching paraprofessionals, as defined in  
4 subdivision (c) of Section 44392, and pupils who are English  
5 learners, in achieving greater success in the classroom. The  
6 program shall utilize English language learner coaches to assist  
7 groups of classroom teachers through onsite technical assistance,  
8 assessment assistance, techniques evaluation, and other areas  
9 determined necessary by the county office of education selected  
10 under Section 44442.7, the employing district, or both.

11 (b) Classroom teachers who are eligible to receive assistance  
12 from English language learner coaches shall receive assistance  
13 pursuant to the following order of priority:

14 (1) Teachers without credentials.

15 (2) Teachers with less than two years of classroom instruction  
16 experience.

17 (3) Teachers with less than five years of classroom instruction  
18 experience.

19 (c) It is preferable that the classroom teachers identified in  
20 paragraphs (1) to (3), inclusive, possess, or are in the process of  
21 obtaining, a certificate of completion provided by the English  
22 Language Development Professional Institutes pursuant to  
23 Section 406.

24 44442.5 (a) The program shall be aligned to current statewide  
25 adopted academic content standards and frameworks.

26 (b) The program shall complement and not supplant other  
27 statewide efforts to improve the academic performance of  
28 English language learners, including, but not limited to, the  
29 English Language Development Professional Institutes, the  
30 English Language Acquisition Program, and the English  
31 Language and Intensive Literacy Program.

32 44442.7. The department shall select a county office of  
33 education for the purposes of administering the program. The  
34 selected county office of education shall have a proven record of  
35 experience in providing learning opportunities and services for  
36 English language learners.

37 44443. Subject to an appropriation in the Budget Act or other  
38 legislation, the English Language Learner Teacher Coaching  
39 Program shall be administered by the county office of education  
40 selected by the department under Section 44442.7. That county

1 office of education shall directly, or in cooperation with other  
2 county offices of education, seek qualified applicants, and train  
3 qualified applicants for English language learner coaches, as  
4 requested by school districts. Upon completion of their training,  
5 the English language learner coaches shall provide coaching  
6 services to a maximum of 25 classroom teachers from their  
7 respective districts. In order to be eligible for funding pursuant to  
8 this article, a school district participating in this program shall  
9 place its English language learner coaches in low-performing  
10 schools. For the purposes of this article, “low-performing school”  
11 means a school that has an Academic Performance Index ranking  
12 pursuant to Section 52052 that is in the bottom one-third  
13 percentile for all public schools in the state. In addition, a school  
14 district participating in this program shall continue to pay the  
15 salaries of its English language learner coaches while those  
16 teachers are performing their duties as coaches pursuant to this  
17 article.

18 44444. (a) The department shall evaluate the success of the  
19 program and report its findings to the Legislature by January 1,  
20 2010. It is the intent of the Legislature that funding for the  
21 evaluation and report be provided for by subsequent legislation.  
22 Assessments evaluating coaching programs, as well as measuring  
23 pupil performance, shall be used in evaluating the English  
24 Language Learner Teacher Coaching Program. The department  
25 shall collaborate with the county office of education selected  
26 under Section 44442.7 in the development of the evaluation and  
27 evaluation process.

28 (b) The Superintendent shall evaluate the program’s  
29 effectiveness in improving English language reading, writing,  
30 and comprehension skills among pupils who are designated as  
31 English language learners. The evaluation shall use criteria that  
32 include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

33 (1) Improvements in the grades of English language learners.

34 (2) Improvements in standardized testing scores of English  
35 language learners.

36 (3) Overall improvement in the academic performance of  
37 English language learners.

38 44444.1. It is the intent of the Legislature that, commencing  
39 with the 2007–08 fiscal year, a minimum of 100 English

1 language learner teacher coaches be recruited, trained, and placed  
2 in California public schools.

3 44444.2. It is the intent of the Legislature that this article  
4 shall complement Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 400) of  
5 Part 1, particularly as that chapter provides for the professional  
6 development of teachers and supplemental instruction of pupils  
7 who are English language learners. The county office of  
8 education selected under Section 44442.7 shall identify activities  
9 that are mutually beneficial to both the English Language  
10 Professional Development Institutes, pursuant to Section 406,  
11 and the English language learner coaches.

12 44444.3. The English Language Learner Teacher Coaching  
13 Program shall not be implemented if funding is not made  
14 available for this article pursuant to an appropriation in the  
15 annual Budget Act or other measure.

16 44444.4. This article shall remain in effect only until January  
17 1, 2012, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted  
18 statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2012, deletes or extends  
19 that date.

20 SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that  
21 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to  
22 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made  
23 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division  
24 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.